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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/058,268

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Warren Keith Edwards

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EXAMINER

CHANKONG, DOHM

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2152

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/058,268

Applicant(s)

EDWARDS ET AL.

Examiner

Dohm Chankong

Art Unit

2152

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

- 1> This action is in response to Applicant's request for continued examination. Claims 1, 3-12, 14-23 and 25-33 are amended. Claims 1-33 are presented for further examination.
- 2> This is a non-final rejection.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

- 3> A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5.19.2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

- 4> Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-33 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5> Claims 1-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed et al, U.S Patent No. 6,345,288 ["Reed"], in view of Bischoff et al, U.S Patent No. 6,718,377 ["Bischoff"].

6> As to claim 1, Reed discloses a system for enabling components to transfer data between each other, the system comprising:

a plurality of components including a first component having a universal data transfer interface [Figure 1 | column 7 «line 59» to column 8 «line 3»];

a second component capable of invoking the universal data transfer interface to cause a data transfer session object (DTSO) to be sent to at least one of the plurality of components, wherein the DTSO is capable of being invoked by the at least one of the plurality of components to transfer data between the first component and the at least one of the plurality of components [column 8 «lines 6-19» | column 70 «lines 51-67»];

wherein the DTSO includes instructions that enable the first component to receive asynchronous event notifications [column 14 «lines 24-56» : "notification of the provider" | column 56 «lines 15-52»];

wherein the DTSO includes instructions to return device type and operating status of the first component [column 49 «lines 21-50»]; and

wherein the DTSO includes instructions to enable the first component or the at least one of the plurality of components to negotiate with each other to select a transfer medium to use to transfer data based upon the type of data [column 12 «lines 44-50» | column 53 «line 54» to column 54 «line 49»].

Reed does disclose that the second component (provider computer) is aware of the data type supported by the first component (consumer) [column 14 «lines 21-59»], but does not expressly disclose instructions to return data types supported by the first component.

7> In the same field of invention, Bischoff is directed towards a system with a provider and consumer computer (analogous to claimed second and first component, respectively) [abstract]. Like Reed, the provider and consumer are enabled to communicate with one another using a standardized interface comprised of various communication objects located at the computers [column 2 «lines 14-30 and 65-67»]. To achieve this functionality, Bischoff discloses returning data types from the consumer computer that are supported by the consumer computer to the provider computer to enable communications between the consumer and provider computer [Figure 4 | column 2 «lines 20-30» | column 7 «lines 56-67»].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Reed with Bischoff's teachings. One would have been motivated to provide such a combination to provide a means for Reed to obtain the supported data formats and types of a consumer computer as represented by Bischoff's feature.

8> As to claim 2, Reed discloses the at least one of the plurality of components comprises the second component or a third component [Figure 1 «items 1, 2»].

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9> As to claim 3, Reed discloses the at least one of the plurality of components sends a second DTSO to the first component to be used by the first component for receiving data transmitted from the at least one of the plurality of components [column 42 «line 31» to column 43 «line 14» | column 74 «lines 37-42»].

10> As to claim 4, Reed discloses the at least one of the plurality of components receives the DTSO from the first component to be used by the at least one of the components for receiving data transmitted from the first component [column 67 «lines 18-65»].

11> As to claim 5, Reed discloses the universal data transfer interface and the DTSO have source-specific object-oriented mobile code that can be interpreted and performed by the first component or the at least one of the plurality of components [column 8 «lines 52-64» | column 21 «lines 14-25»].

12> As to claim 6, Reed discloses the DTSO comprises instructions to enable the first component or the at least one of the plurality of components to negotiate with each other to transfer data, to select a communications protocol configured to transfer data between each other based upon a type of data to be transferred [column 12 «lines 44-50» | column 14 «lines 39-60»].

13> As to claim 7, Reed discloses the DTSO is configured to indicate completion responsive to the first component or to the at least one of the plurality of components

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indicating that the data transfer has completed or failed [column 85 «line 60» to column 86 «line 10»].

14> As to claim 8, Reed discloses a system for enabling components to transfer data between each other [abstract], the system comprising:

a first component having a first universal data transfer interface [Figure 1 «item 2» | column 7 «line 59» to column 8 «line 3»];

a second component having a second universal data transfer interface [Figure 1 «item 1» | column 7 «line 59» to column 8 «line 3»];

a third component invoking the first universal data transfer interface and the second universal data transfer interface to use a data transfer session object to transfer data between the first component and the second component [Figure 1 «item 32» | column 7 «line 59» to column 8 «line 3» | column 13 «lines 12-51»]; and

wherein the DTSO includes instructions that enable the first component to receive asynchronous event notifications [column 14 «lines 24-56» : “notification of the provider” | column 56 «lines 15-52»];

wherein the DTSO includes instructions to return device type and operating status of the first component [column 49 «lines 21-50»]; and

wherein the DTSO includes instructions to enable the first component or the at least one of the plurality of components to negotiate with each other to select a transfer medium to use to transfer data based upon the type of data [column 12 «lines 44-50» | column 53 «line 54» to column 54 «line 49»].

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Reed does disclose that the second component (provider computer) is aware of the data type supported by the first component (consumer) [column 14 «lines 21-59»], but does not expressly disclose instructions to return data types supported by the first component.

15> In the same field of invention, Bischoff is directed towards a system with a provider and consumer computer (analogous to claimed second and first component, respectively) [abstract]. Like Reed, the provider and consumer are enabled to communicate with one another using a standardized interface comprised of various communication objects located at the computers [column 2 «lines 14-30 and 65-67»]. To achieve this functionality, Bischoff discloses returning data types from the consumer computer that are supported by the consumer computer to the provider computer to enable communications between the consumer and provider computer [Figure 4 | column 2 «lines 20-30» | column 7 «lines 56-67»].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Reed with Bischoff's teachings. One would have been motivated to provide such a combination to provide a means for Reed to obtain the supported data formats and types of a consumer computer as represented by Bischoff's feature.

16> As to claims 9-11, as they do not teach or further define over the previously claimed limitations, they are similarly rejected for at least the same reasons set forth for claims 1, 4 and 7.

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17> As to claims 12-18 and 23-29, as they do not teach or further define over the previously claimed limitations, they are rejected for at least the same reasons set forth for claims 1-7, respectively.

18> As to claims 19 and 30, Reed discloses a method (and medium) for enabling components to transfer data between each other, the method comprising:

invoking a first universal data transfer interface of a first component and a second universal data transfer interface of a second component [column 85 «lines 28-59» where : the consumer and provider invoke transfer methods to communicate];

obtaining a DTSO from one of the invoked data transfer interface or the second universal data transfer interface [column 54 «lines 28-43»];

using the DTSO to transfer data between the first and the second component [column 54 «lines 28-43»];

wherein the DTSO includes instructions that enable the first component to receive asynchronous event notifications [column 14 «lines 24-56» : “notification of the provider” | column 56 «lines 15-52»];

wherein the DTSO includes instructions to return device type and operating status of the first component [column 49 «lines 21-50»]; and

wherein the DTSO includes instructions to enable the first component or the at least one of the plurality of components to negotiate with each other to select a transfer medium to use to transfer data based upon the type of data [column 12 «lines 44-50» | column 53 «line 54» to column 54 «line 49»].

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Reed does disclose that the second component (provider computer) is aware of the data type supported by the first component (consumer) [column 14 «lines 21-59»], but does not expressly disclose instructions to return data types supported by the first component.

19> In the same field of invention, Bischoff is directed towards a system with a provider and consumer computer (analogous to claimed second and first component, respectively) [abstract]. Like Reed, the provider and consumer are enabled to communicate with one another using a standardized interface comprised of various communication objects located at the computers [column 2 «lines 14-30 and 65-67»]. To achieve this functionality, Bischoff discloses returning data types from the consumer computer that are supported by the consumer computer to the provider computer to enable communications between the consumer and provider computer [Figure 4 | column 2 «lines 20-30» | column 7 «lines 56-67»].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Reed with Bischoff's teachings. One would have been motivated to provide such a combination to provide a means for Reed to obtain the supported data formats and types of a consumer computer as represented by Bischoff's feature.

20> As to claims 20-22 and 31-33, as they do not teach or further define over the previously claimed limitations, they are rejected for at least the same reasons set forth for claims 4 and 7.

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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Harris et al, U.S Patent No. 5,475,836 : standardized communications between external sources and sinks;

Menezes et al, U.S Patent No. 5,621,894;

Bruce, Sr. et al, U.S Patent Publication No. 2002/0099562;

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dohm Chankong whose telephone number is 571.272.3942.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday [7:30 AM to 4:30 PM].

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571.272.3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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